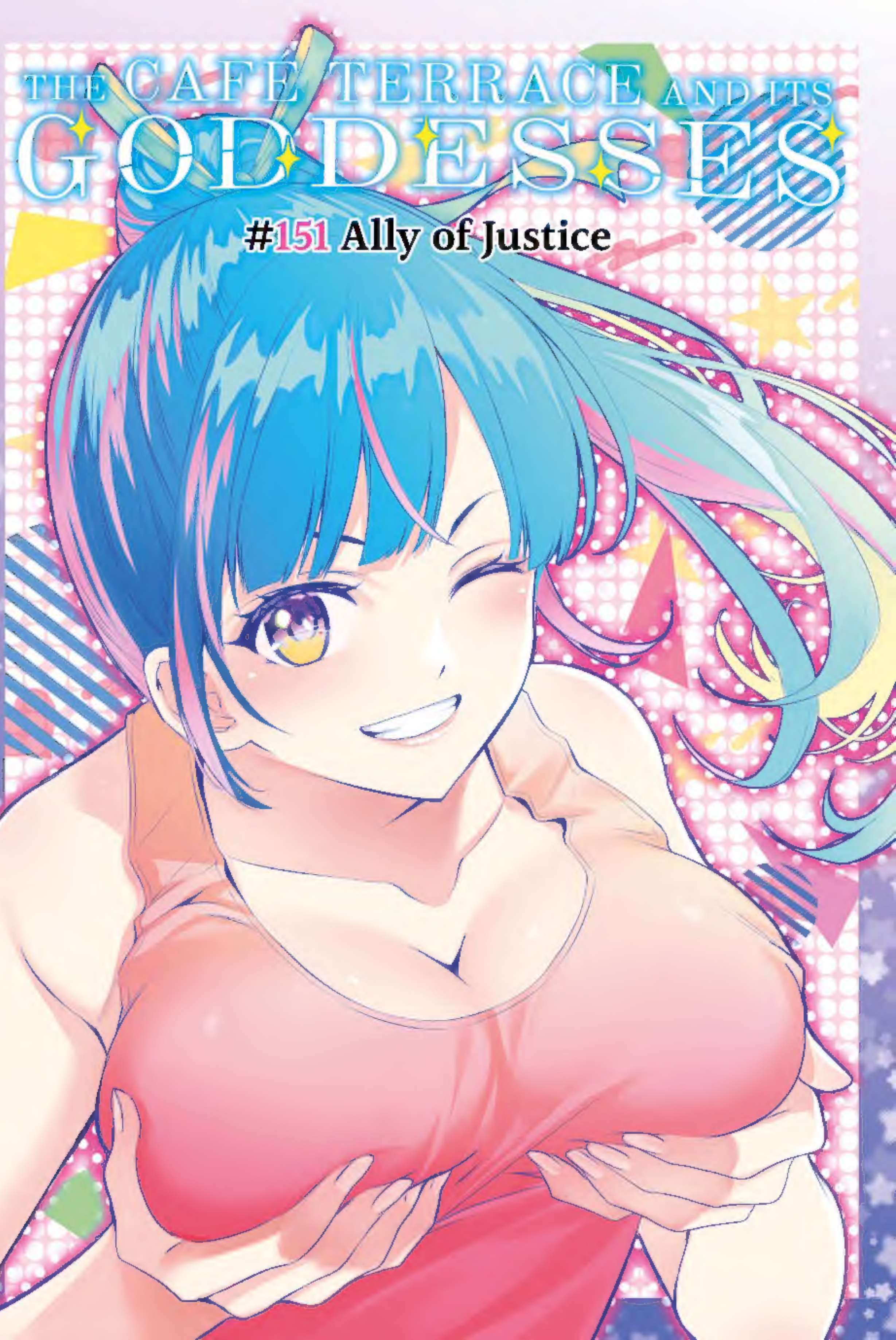
THE CAFÉ TERRACE AND ITS GODDESSES

#151 Ally of Justice



I NEED TO HURRY UP AND MAKE BREAKFAST...

ガラッ RATTLE

O-OH NO!! I OVER-SLEPT!

OH... 'MORNING!

I BORROWED YOUR APRON.

WELL, YOU'RE HAVING ME STAY HERE FOR A WHILE, AFTER ALL.

I FIGURED THAT I COULD AT LEAST HELP OUT WITH THE CHORES.

THANK YOU.

THAT'S A GREAT HELP.

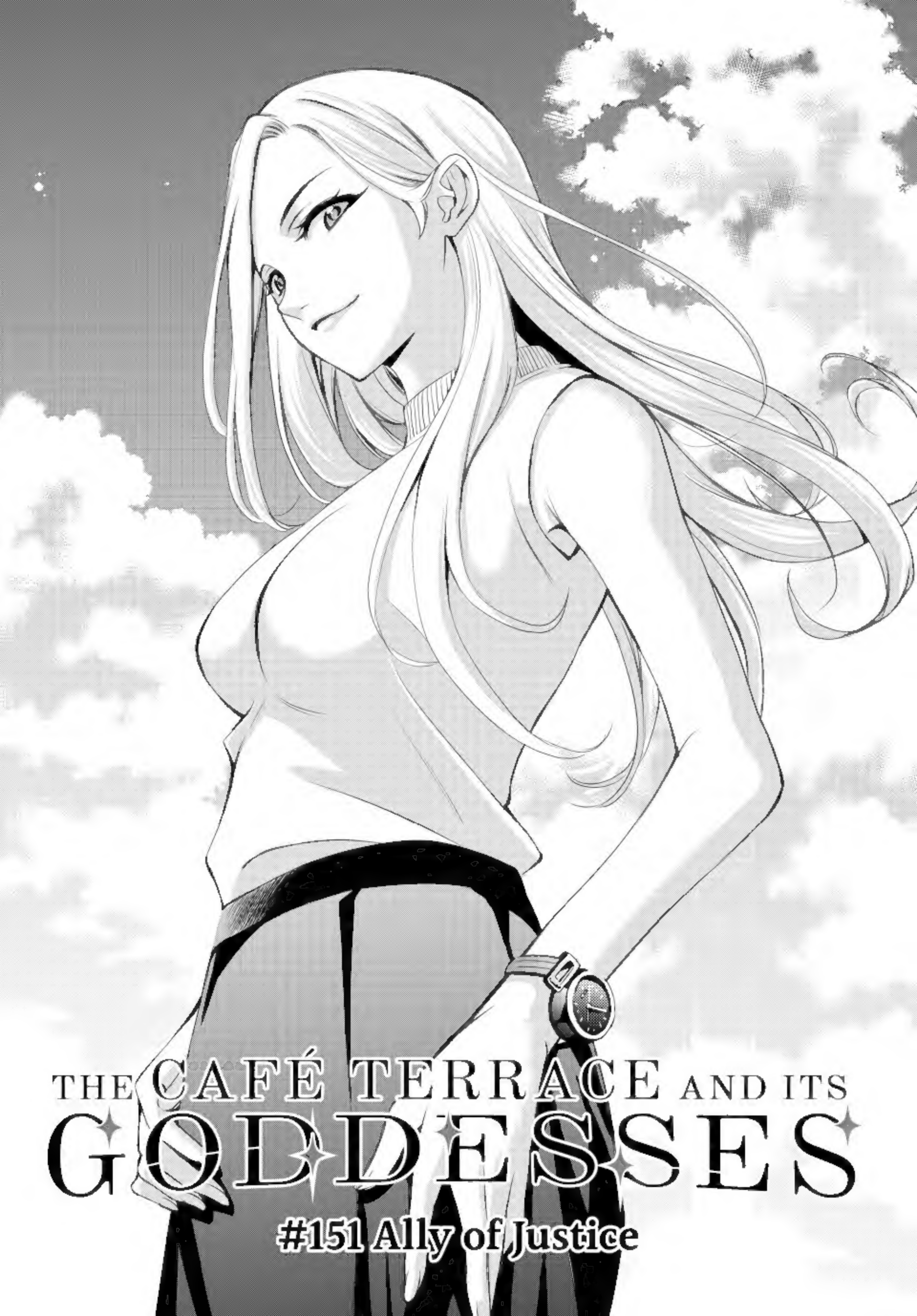
ERI-SAN... WHY ARE YOU...?

SO...WHY ARE YOU HELPING OUT TOO, AMI-CHAN?

SHE TOLD ME TO CHOOSE BETWEEN HELPING OUT, OR DEATH.

UH...

I SAID NOTHING OF THE SORT!!



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A PRO-POSAL?!

...YEAH.

I'M IN A LONG-DISTANCE RELATIONSHIP WITH SOMEONE LIVING HERE.

OH MY!!

WHY, WHY?!

PLEASE TELL US EVERY-THING!!

QUIT FLAPPING ABOUT!! SIT DOWN AND EAT!!

SO I WAS THINKING OF PROPOSING TO THEM.

YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE ONE TO PROPOSE ?!

WHEN AMI-CHAN'S GRANDMOTHER WAS LOOKING AFTER ME, HE WAS THERE TOO.

WELL, WE JUST KIND OF ENDED UP DECIDING TO DATE...

AND NOW WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR ABOUT 12 YEARS.

WHEN YOU SAY AMI'S GRAND-MOTHER WAS LOOKING AFTER YOU...

DO YOU MEAN AT FAMILY HOME?

THAT'S RIGHT.

SHE TOOK IN CHILDREN WITH ALL SORTS OF PROBLEMS.

BUT STILL, 12 YEARS IS A LONG TIME.

*A Japanese holiday and festival for honouring the dead, such as ancestors and family members.

RIGHT? BUT AFTER HE GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITY HE CAME HERE TO LOOK FOR A JOB...

SO WE'VE BEEN LONG-DISTANCE FOR EIGHT YEARS.

EIGHT YEARS?!

I ONLY GET TO SEE HIM FOR A LITTLE WHILE WHEN HE COMES HOME FOR OBON* AND NEW YEAR.

HE'S THE KIND OF PERSON WHO'S ALWAYS BUSY.

TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT REALLY SURE WHETHER HE STILL FEELS THE SAME WAY ABOUT ME...

IT'S NOT LIKE HE'S SAID HE WANTS TO BREAK UP OR ANYTHING...

BUT I'LL BE TURNING 28 THIS YEAR.

I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME WE FIGURE OUT WHERE WE WANT TO GO FROM HERE.

AHH, THERE REALLY ARE GUYS LIKE THAT, HUH?

GUYS WHO PUT OFF GIVING A CLEAR ANSWER LIKE THAT.

I'M NOT GOING TO WAIT THAT LONG.

ISN'T HE JUST TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE FACT THAT YOU LIKE HIM?

...

IT'S ENOUGH TO PISS ANYONE OFF.

?

ERI-SAN!! I'LL CHEER YOU ON!!

ME TOO!!

YEAH!! IF THERE'S ANYTHING WE CAN EVER DO TO HELP YOU OUT, PLEASE LET US KNOW!!

AW, REALLY? YOU'RE ALL SO KIND!

WELL, IT'S A FEELING WE CAN ALL RELATE TO, AFTER ALL.

HUH?

...SO...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, LEISURELY DRINKING COFFEE?

I'M HOLDING THE FORT HERE ON MY OWN...

SO SHE'LL BE OVER AT THE BEACH HUT UNTIL FIVE P.M.

OH, I SEE... THAT'S A SHAME.

WELL, WHILE I'M HERE, I THOUGHT I'D COME AND SEE WHAT AMI-CHAN'S LIKE WHEN SHE'S WORKING.

YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY TO DO THAT, RIGHT?

BESIDES, WEREN'T YOU GOING TO GO AND PROPOSE?

WELL...

I NEEDED TIME TO PREPARE MYSELF.

THIS IS A ONCE IN A LIFETIME KIND OF THING, AFTER ALL.

OH... HE'S ALWAYS BUSY ON WEEKDAYS.

HE PROMISED TO MEET ME ON SUNDAY.

WHAT? BUT THAT'S THREE DAYS AWAY, ISN'T IT?

DIDN'T YOU GET HERE WAY TOO EARLY?

DAN-GEROUS, YOU SAY?

FIRST, I HAD TO COME TO THE PLACE WHERE HE IS... AND BREATHE THE SAME AIR AS HIM.

IF I DON'T GRADUALLY GET MY BODY USED TO THIS PLACE, IT COULD BE DANGEROUS.

BY WHAT?

BUT STILL...

I WAS PRETTY SURPRISED.

I FIGURED YOU'D BE LIKE THAT WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND TOO, TRYING TO PRESSURE HIM INTO MARRYING YOU.

WELL, YOU'RE REALLY SCARY WHEN YOU'RE ANGRY, ERI-SAN.

BESIDES, I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY BEEN VIOLENT WITH HER, NOT ONCE!!

O-OH, BUT...

I'M ONLY LIKE THAT WITH AMI-CHAN, YOU KNOW?!

I WONDER IF IT TRAUMATISED HER IN SOME WAY...

I WAS SO STRICT WITH HER WHEN WE WERE KIDS.

SHE DOESN'T HAVE A FATHER, SO I THOUGHT I'D BE THAT KIND OF FIGURE FOR HER...

REALLY?

I THOUGHT YOU RULED OVER HER WITH AN IRON FIST OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

I WOULD NEVER!

THAT AMI-CHAN'S ALWAYS EMBELLISHING HER STORIES!!

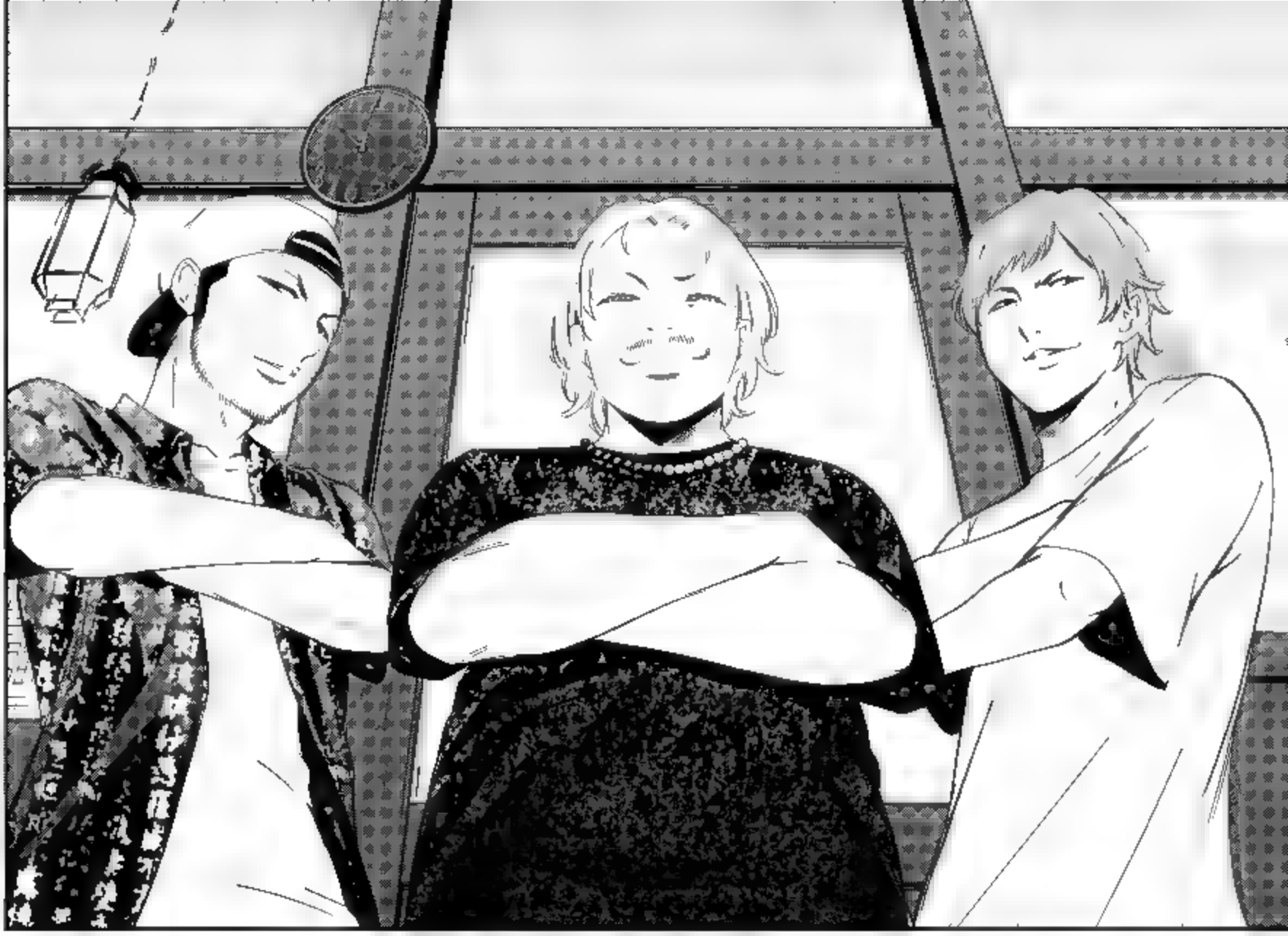
WHENEVER SOMEONE TRIED TO CHAT ME UP, OR I GOT PICKED ON BY SCARY PEOPLE, SHE'D ALWAYS COME TO MY AID.

BUT AS SHE GOT OLDER, SHE WAS ACTUALLY THE ONE HELPING ME ALL THE TIME, YOU KNOW?

CLANG カン
CLANG カン

SO THAT'S HOW IT WAS.

...WOW.



...OH.

IT WOULD APPEAR SO.
SEE, I TOLD YOU, EI-CHAN.
THE MANAGER'S THE ONLY ONE WORKING HERE TODAY.

OH?

I SHOULD'VE HAD AT LEAST ONE BODY-GUARD HERE WITH ME.

DAMN... I WAS CARELESS.

...

HEY, HOW ABOUT YOU COME AND PLAY WITH US?! WE'LL GO SOMEWHERE NICE.

THERE'S A CUTE GIRL HERE.

SeasideCafe'Familia

AMI-CHAN!! SOMETHING TERRIBLE'S HAPPENED!!

FWIP

O-OH, SHU-KUN, YOU'RE HERE!!

EITHER ONE OF YOU IS FINE, SO JUST COME OVER TO FAMILIA WITH ME!!

SHU-KUN?

SLACKING OFF AGAIN? DON'T YOU CARE IF THEY GET MAD AT YOU?

WHAT'S WRONG, HEKIRU-SAN?

TINA AND REI-CHAN ARE OUT BUYING SUPPLIES, SO THEY'RE NOT HERE...

BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT THOSE GUYS'LL DO TO HAYATO-KUN!!

WHEN I LOOKED IN AT THE CAFÉ JUST NOW, FUWA-SAN'S GRANDSON AND THOSE FRIENDS OF HIS WERE THERE AGAIN...

AND THEY WERE TRYING REALLY HARD TO HIT ON A WOMAN WHO WAS THERE AS A CUSTOMER!!

H-HEY!! THE WOMAN AT THE CAFÉ... IS IT ERI NEE-CHAN?!

TCH, I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO COME ALONG. I CAN'T BELIEVE THOSE GUYS ARE STILL DOING ALL THAT.

...!

I DON'T KNOW, BUT SHE WAS WEARING A WHITE SLEEVELESS DRESS AND HAD LONG HAIR!

THEY GRABBED HER BY THE ARM AND LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE GOING TO TAKE HER AWAY!!

THOSE JERKS!!

AH!! WAIT, NEE-SAN!!

I'M COMING, TOO!!

IF...

IF I DON'T HELP HER...

IS THIS ERI NEE-CHAN YOUR BIG SISTER, NEE-SAN?!

IF SO, SURELY SHE'S CRAZY STRONG TOO, SO WE DON'T NEED TO WORRY, RIGHT?!

THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM, YOU FOOL!!

...ERI NEE-CHAN'S GONNA END UP KILLING SOMEONE!!

CRUSH SMASH

CRUSH

YANK

HEY!!

I THOUGHT YA WANTED TO PLAY!!

WHERE D'YA WANNA GO, HUH?! HEAVEN?!

DON'T FALL ASLEEP, FATTY!!

*"THE REAL THING IS TOO GRAPHIC, SO THIS IS A REPRESENTATION

SMASH

PLEASE FORGIVE US!! WE'RE SORRY!!

IF YOU KEEP AT IT ANY LONGER HE'S GONNA DIE!!

STOP!! STOP, PLEASE!!

SMASH

WAS BECAUSE YA DIDN'T GO HOME LIKE I TOLD YA TO WHEN I TRIED TO BE NICE, WASN'T IT?!

THE REASON THIS ALL HAPPENED IN THE FIRST PLACE...

HUUUH?

BAM

ERI NEE-CHAN !!

M-MANAGER!! HELP US OUT, YOU KNOW HER, RIGHT?!

NO, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN HELP WITH THIS.

STOP, ERI NEE-CHAN!! DON'T TURN INTO A MONSTER!!

SHUT UUUUP!! I'LL KILL ALL OF YA!!

*THIS IS KETCHUP

HAYACCHI!! SING A LULLABY!!

SHE'S SCARY ...

...

STOP RIGHT THERE, YOU COWARDS!!

COME ON, HURRY AND SING A LULLABY!!

GRRAAAH!!

YOU GUYS!! HURRY, GRAB MUSTACHE FACE OVER THERE AND RUN!! I CAN'T HOLD HER MUCH LONGER!!

R... RIGHT!!

THANK YOU!!

YOU SHOULD HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF, ERI-SAN!!
...
WE'RE ALL CHEERING FOR YOU.
CHATTER
ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S A PROPOSAL!
CHATTER
I TOTALLY GET IT! IT IS NERVE-WRACKING, CONFESSING TO SOME-ONE!

THANK YOU ALL.

I'M SHY AND CAN'T ALWAYS SAY WHAT I WANT TO SAY...

BUT I'LL TRY TO BE MORE CONFIDENT AND DO MY BEST.

IT'LL ALL BE OKAY!!

I HOPE IT GOES WELL!!

...THERE'S NO WAY IT WILL, SURELY?

END

The Café Terrace and Its Goddesses

Kodansha Digital Edition

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